20 April, 1992

The Honorable Arlen Specter
The U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Specter:

I have been interested in the JFK Assassination for about 16 years. I strongly believe it is an unsolved murder and deserves to be examined thoroughly, beginning with an analysis of the Warren Report and all of the evidence the Commission had at it's disposal. I am, therefore, pleased to hear that you are urging the release of all files connected with the case.

Acting on my own, ~~and~~ not as part of a group or for another individual, I have developed some questions I would like to put to you, Mr. David Belin, Mr. Gerald Ford, Congressman Louis Stokes and anyone else who would be in a position to answer them.

Would you agree to appearing before a televised panel of questioners to answer the many questions that have remained unanswered over the last 28 years? It would be similar to the 'round-table' debates produced by PBS over the years. You would be joined by whomever you chose. The opposite side would be chosen by someone such as Jim Lesar, attorney and head of the Assassination Archives. One of the rules should be that no evidence from outside the Commission's (and FBI's) official publications would be used. One of the disturbing actions of the Warren Commission is that it disbanded the moment it handed over it's Report, leaving no individual or corporate entity to answer legitimate questions arising from demonstrable misstatements of fact in the Report.

Where in the 26 volumes of Hearings and Exhibits can I find evidence that the FBI and the Warren Commission ever seriously considered a murderer, or murderers, other than Oswald?

Marina Oswald was a valuable witness for the Commission. Why does the Report not refer to the hints made to her by the FBI and the Immigration and Naturalization Service that if she wanted to remain in the United States she would do well to "cooperate"? (1H p79-80) Was she not subject to pressure, and did this not affect her credibility? Why did the Report suppress her admitted lying? Why did the Report not mention her considerable financial gain as a consequence of the assassination? Was she not a wealthy young woman after her testimony? Does this not put a cloud over her credibility?

Where in the 26 volumes can I find hard evidence that Oswald fired anything on Nov.22,1963? How could the Report declare the so-called murder weapon (the Mannlicher-Carcano), to the exclusion of all others, was in Oswald's possession(to the exclusion of anyone else)at the time of the assassination, when it cited no proof of any of these allegations?

Why did the Commission not include a subject index to make possible the tracing of relevant testimony and documents to any single item of evidence? Did it not occur to the Commissioners that it would be impossible for the average person to study the 26 volumes (some 20,000 pages and more than 10 million words) as they are presented by the authors?

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Why was the Commission (and the Secret Service and FBI) so secretive about the photographic evidence that was available in this case? For example, Commander James Humes(head autopsy physician) told you that autopsy photographs are routine and "invaluable in the field of forensic pathology" (2H p350), yet the Commission did not provide him with the photographs to help him prepare for his testimony. The 'solution' to the crime hinged upon reconstructions in which the number of shots and the location of the wounds and the angle of declination were vital. Yet you wouldn't show him the pictures. Instead, he had to depend upon second-hand scetches based on recollections. Why was that?

I read where Chief Justice Warren told the Commission staff that "truth was our only goal". If that is true, why is it that the credibility of the Warren Report is falling down like a house of cards? Why, after 16 years of study, does the Report look like it had a different goal: to convict Lee Harvey Oswald?

Finally, is it safe to say that, since you are interested in opening the files, you are also in favor of getting all of the answers to all of the legitimate questions to the American people once and for all? I hope so. If truth is really your goal, I think you will agree with me.

Thank you for your time and effort.

Sincerely,

Peter M. Swindells

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